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Germany (Russian Zone)

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SUBJECT

PLACE ACQUIRED New Identity Cards for the Soviet Zone and Greater Berlin

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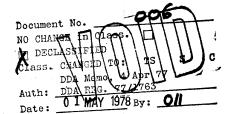
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- The German Administration of Interior has completed plans for the introduction of a new identity card for the Soviet Zone including Greater Berlin. The draft was submitted to the SMA for approval.
- This issue of new identity documents is based on the recommendations of the conference of Soviet Zone police officials held at Wilhelmsruh on 5-6 April 1948. A photostatic copy of the conference minutes is in the possession of CIA.

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Comment: The technical recommendations are routine. Extension of the provisions to residents of the western sectors of Berlin, with prosecution for non-compliance, would result in the following possibilities:

- A west rn order to disregard the new registration law. In this case, residents of the western sectors could not enter the Soviet Sector or Zone without fear of severe punishment for failure to carry legal identity documents.
- b. Tacit approval by the western authorities, as in the case of the two currencies, to carry two identity documents. The introduction of such a controversial measure now is another indication of the intensifying Soviet drive to make the Allied position untenable.)





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